



Messenger

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

1902 Vance Jackson San Antonio, TX 78213
210-344-8393

Things to Remember:

- † Tuesday, July 21st - Vouchers
- † Thursday, July 23rd - SA Food Bank Truck
- † Thursday, July 23rd - Newsletter Deadline!!
- † F-Troop - Sunday, June 28 @ 6:00 PM
- † Wednesday Night Worship Service - Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm (FH)

A picture is worth a thousand words, or so the saying goes. As you will see from the great pictures inside (thanks to our wonderful photographer), a lot of fun and fellowship was enjoyed at our 2015 VBS. Most of our changes proved to be successful. Our church looked so colorful as we got off to a great start when our "shepherd " introduced the very cute and loveable Sara the sheep. The kids who dressed up during story time looked as cute as could be; water-play day was a big hit in our brand new recreation class; the friendship bracelets made in crafts could be seen being worn throughout the week; music brought back familiar songs, and the kids even got to use some instruments. The youth had a great time with two instructors, and the adults that attended class were attentive and enjoyed the lesson and the snacks provided. Registration went smoothly, as did supper time. I wish I could name each person who gave of their time, but I wouldn't want to leave anyone out.

Therefore..... a **HUGE THANK YOU** to **ALL** who helped bring the love and knowledge of our Lord to those He sent our way. Let us continue to keep them in prayer.

"Well done, good and faithful servants"

In His name and for His glory,
Melinda

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STATE OF THE CHURCH

<u>USHERS</u>	
†	Bob Bailly
†	Jeff Brown
†	Tom Jack
†	Bob Mace
†	Johnny Mendoza

<u>Sunday School</u>	6/28	7/5	7/12	7/19
Children	2	1	2	4
Youth	6	5	5	6
Adults	40	39	39	37
Total SS	48	45	46	47
<u>Worship</u>	92	78	74	81

St. Mark's and Emmanuel's UMC's RSL Programs

Fall 2015 and Spring 2016

An organizational meeting of the St. Mark's and Emmanuel's UMC's ESL Programs took place on Monday, June 22, 2015 at Emmanuel UMC. The meeting began with a prayer.

A review of the ESL Program took place. The ESL program was started as an initiative of an Immigration Empowering program sponsored by the Cooperative Ministries Team in the former Rio Grande Conference.

The program started in 2011 at El Divino Salvador UMC and was expanded to Emmanuel UMC in 2012. For logistic reasons, the program at El Divino Salvador UMC was relocated to St. Mark's UMC, where it is currently situated.

The main purpose of this ESL program has been to start a language development ministry that responds to the needs of a community, which seems to be restricted to its ability to access economic, social and educational resources due to its limited or nonexistent English speaking skills. Thus, by empowering this community, we are preventing them from being trapped in a cycle of poverty in which many of them find themselves.

This ESL program was created after many hours of reflections, and as a response to the Biblical mandate related to caring for "The Neighbor and the Stranger in the land," and in keeping with the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church, which gave the mandate to be involved as "Christians in Social Justice issues."

The ESL program is made up of two semesters of 14 weeks each. The instruction entails 4-hour weekly sessions on Saturday's from 9:00 am to 1:00pm at St. Mark's UMC and on Monday's from 9:00am to 1pm at the Emmanuel UMC location. Usually there is an average enrollment of 25 students at St. Mark's UMC and 8 students at Emmanuel UMC. At the end of the ESL program, the students receive a Certificate of Achievement. The next semester is scheduled to begin in September, 2015. It is encouraged that members of each of the two named churches will pray for the community, instructors and students, give moral support, and obtain ownership of this program.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, August 20, 2015 at Emmanuel UMC.

".....Love your neighbors as much as you love yourself." Luke 10:27

Submitted by Linda Cerda



Conference Benevolences

23.5 cents of every apportioned dollar is allotted for conference benevolences. The goal is to support:

- † Youth, Children & Older Adult Ministries
- † Midwinter & Summer Camps
- † Senior Christian Retreats
- † Spiritual Development & Worship seminars
- † Communications
- † Board of Ordained Ministry
- † The Program Office

CAMPUS MINISTRY GOALS

Recruit and educate clergy

Provide scholarships for students at United Methodist Colleges and Universities in Texas

Support historically black United Methodist Colleges

To ensure a United Methodist presence on local colleges and universities, where young men and women are making decisions about careers, marriage and other life-changing issues

Higher education causes have always been a major priority of the Methodist DNA. In fact, the very first time a church in our conference reached 100 members, a Methodist College was started to educate the youth; that college eventually became Southwestern University.

Upcoming Altar Flower Opportunities

Would you like to sponsor the beautiful altar flowers in the sanctuary on Sunday morning? There are several opportunities in the coming months where you can purchase these flowers in honor or memory of a loved one or a special occasion. Just sign up with Joanne or Patti and drop your \$25 donation in the offering plate with the designation "Altar Flowers".

August 2	1 Opening
August 30	1 Opening
September 13	1 Opening
September 20	2 Openings
September 27	1 Opening
October 4	1 Opening
October 11	2 Openings
October 18	2 Openings
October 25	2 Openings

Call Joanne Green - 210-690-5714 or
Patti in the church office - 210-344-8393
or email: stmarksumc@grandecom.net





From Our Pastor. . .

I hope that you are having a wonderful summer and enjoying all the blessings that God offers! I just came back from my 45th High School Reunion in Kingsville. It was a really wonderful time, though I was astonished at how everyone but me had gotten really old! It was a really sweet time of reconnecting and reminiscing with old friends. I was really struck by how quickly, seemingly, time had passed since we had all been together.

In fact, I am making it a point to be more attentive to the gift of each hour and each day that we've been given. One of my best friends shared with me what all had happened to him since we'd last been together. In 45 years, he had married, fathered two children, become a grandfather and buried his wife! I was astonished at how packed his life had been and how disconnected I had been from him as he experienced all these milestones. I resolved, then and there, to make a point to reach out more often to those that I care about. Surely all of us get caught up in our own lives, doing the things that we are called to do, love to do and want to do. Somehow, though loved ones were often on my mind, and I would think of calling or writing or visiting them....somehow, the time just slipped away and opportunities to connect were missed and gone.

Jesus reminds us in John 11: 9 that we each have 24 hours in each day in which to do our Heavenly Father's will. The longer I live, the more convinced I am that God's will for us is to be in relationship with each other and with God. In fact, it is hard to relate to God (whom I cannot see) if I'm not relating to my brothers and sisters whom I can see (hmmmm, I think Jesus said something about this, too!). There were a few friends who were not at our reunion who I had looked forward to seeing; some weren't there because of other obligations or choice, some weren't there because of illness, and some weren't there because they were dead! Nothing like a 45th reunion to help us focus on our own mortality!

So, let us live one day at a time, really living, paying attention (stopping to smell the roses!). Is there someone God has placed on your mind to reach out to? Let this be the day that we act on that insight and make a visit or a call, some kind of connection because tomorrow may be too late. We place our future in the hands of God, trusting God's powerful love to sustain and provide and protect us. But the future comes to us one moment at a time; let us use those moments meaningfully! God bless you for being on this spiritual journey with me! This is the day that the Lord has given us; let us rejoice and be glad in it....and let us live it fully and meaningfully!

God bless you, see you Sunday (God willing!)

Jay

August 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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August is Immunization Awareness Month

We all need shots (also called vaccinations or immunizations) to help protect us from serious diseases. Shots can prevent serious diseases like the flu, measles, and pneumonia. It's important to know which shots you need and when to get them. Please visit the Center for Disease Control website: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/adult/adult-schedule-easy-read.pdf> to see if you are up-to-date on your immunizations. For more information, please contact Charzes Flowers, Wesley Nurse at 210-344-8393.

2015 Recommended Immunizations for Adults: By Age

If you are this age, talk to your healthcare professional about these vaccines →

If you are this age,	Flu Influenza	Td/Tdap Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis	Shingles Zoster	Pneumococcal		Meningococcal	MMR Measles, mumps, rubella	HPV Human papillomavirus		Chickenpox Varicella	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B	Hib Haemophilus influenzae type b
				PCV13	PPSV23			for women	for men				
19 - 21 years									3 doses				
22 - 26 years							1 or 2 doses	3 doses	3 doses				
27 - 49 years		1 dose of Tdap*		1 dose	1 or 2 doses	1 or more doses							
50 - 59 years	Flu vaccine every year	Td booster every 10 years								2 doses	2 doses	3 doses	1 or 3 doses
60 - 64 years			1 dose										
65+ year				1 dose	1 dose								

More Information: There are several flu vaccines available. Talk to your healthcare professional about which flu vaccines is right for you.

* If you are pregnant, you should get a Tdap vaccine during the 3rd trimester of every pregnancy to help protect your babies from pertussis (whooping cough).

You should get zoster vaccine even if you've had shingles before.

There are two different types of pneumococcal vaccine: PCV13 (conjugate) and PPSV23 (polysaccharide). Talk with your healthcare professional to find out if one or both pneumococcal vaccines are recommended for you.

Your healthcare professional will let you know how many doses you need.

Recommended for you if you did not get it when you were a child.

If you were born in 1957 or after, and don't have a record of being vaccinated or having had measles, mumps and rubella, talk to your healthcare professional about how many doses you may need.

There are two HPV vaccines but only one HPV vaccine (Gardasil[®]) should be given to men.

If you are a male 22 through 26 years old and have sex with men you should complete the HPV vaccine series if you have not already done so.

Your healthcare professional will let you know how many doses you need.

- Recommended For You:** This vaccine is recommended for you unless your healthcare professional tells you that you cannot safely receive it or that you do not need it.
- May Be Recommended For You:** This vaccine is recommended for you if you have certain risk factors due to your health, job, or lifestyle that are not listed here. Talk to your healthcare professional to see if you need this vaccine.

If you are traveling outside the United States, you may need additional vaccines.
Ask your healthcare professional about which vaccines you may need at least 6 weeks prior to your travel.

For more information, call 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636) or visit www.cdc.gov/vaccines



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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ATTENTION ST. MARK'S YOUTH!!

St. Mark's is sponsoring a 2-Day Summer Day Camp and inviting youth from other churches to share a time of food, fun and fellowship. The program is open to those 6th grade through early college. Bring your Bible and a fun attitude and the rest will be provided!

Please RSVP to Susan Philbin - 210-313-5929 or the church office - 210-344-8393.

St. Mark's Children's Ministry Entering New Phase

A council has recently formed here at St. Mark's that will focus on building and sustaining a Children's Ministry. We know that we are surrounded by young families in our neighborhood, and that we have had a connection to Arnold Elementary for many years. Couple that with our facility, that boasts several classrooms and an awesome playground, and you have a recipe for a vibrant Children's Ministry. However, there are a few key ingredients yet to be found: a vision, a director, and the children, of course!

The St. Mark's Children's Council (formerly known as the Youth Council) has been assembled to address these missing ingredients. This small group of St. Mark's members is meeting regularly and praying diligently to discern God's will for this endeavor. As of yet the Council has created this mission statement: ***The goal of the St. Mark's Children's Ministry is to impart the love and teachings of Jesus Christ to the children in our neighborhood mission field.*** To this end, the

council has agreed that a Children's Ministry Director is a necessary component in this process. (See *the Job Description in this issue of the Newsletter.*) Please join us in praying for the right person God has for this important role.

God-willing, with the right leader at the helm, and a clear vision of what our outreach will look like, the children will come. We see the love and excitement for Jesus in the faces of the children who come to Vacation Bible School each summer. How incredible it would be to sustain and grow that love and excitement year-round! For Jesus said, "Don't stop the children. Let them come to me, for such is the kingdom of Heaven." Matthew 19:14

In order for this ministry to truly succeed, we will need everyone's support, whether that means prayer or more direct involvement. If you have a heart for children and would like to be involved, please contact Pastor Jay.

Continued from page 6

2015 Recommended Immunizations for Adults: By Health Condition

If you have this health condition, talk to your healthcare professional about these vaccines	Flu Influenza	Td/Tdap Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis	Shingles Zoster	Pneumococcal		Meningococcal	MMR Measles, mumps, rubella	HPV Human papillomavirus		Chickenpox Varicella	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B	Hib Haemophilus influenzae type b
				PCV13	PPSV23			for women	for men				
Pregnancy		*see below			1 - 2 doses								
Weakened Immune System			SHOULD NOT GET VACCINE				SHOULD NOT GET VACCINE			SHOULD NOT GET VACCINE		3 doses	post-HSCT* recipients only
HIV: CD4 count less than 200						1 or more doses							
HIV: CD4 count 200 or greater		1 dose of Tdap		1 dose							2 doses	3 doses	1 or 3 doses
Kidney disease or poor kidney function	Flu vaccine every year	followed by Tdap booster every 10 years			1 - 2 doses								
Asplenia (if you do not have a spleen or if it does not work well)			1 dose for those 60 years or older			1 or more doses	1 or 2 doses					3 doses	1 or 3 doses
Heart disease													
Chronic lung disease				1 dose									1 or 3 doses
Chronic alcoholism													
Diabetes (Type 1 or Type 2)												3 doses	
Chronic Liver Disease											2 doses		

More Information:

There are several flu vaccines available. Talk to your healthcare professional about which flu vaccine is right for you.

* If you are pregnant, you should get a Tdap vaccine during the 3rd trimester of every pregnancy to help protect your babies from pertussis (whooping cough).

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Recommended for you if you did not get it when you were a child.

Your healthcare professional will let you know how many doses you need.

*Hematopoietic stem cell transplant

Recommended For You: This vaccine is recommended for you unless your healthcare professional tells you that you cannot safely receive it or that you do not need it.

May Be Recommended For You: This vaccine is recommended for you if you have certain other risk factors due to your age, health, job, or lifestyle that are not listed here. Talk to your healthcare professional to see if you need this vaccine.

YOU SHOULD NOT GET THIS VACCINE

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For more information, call 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636) or visit www.cdc.gov/vaccines

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

SOUNDS FROM THE BEANCOUNTERS

The following provides the financial overview for the month of May.

Operating Cash balance at 5/31/15	(7,212)
Non-Designated Contributions - June	15,117
Operating Expenses:	
Council on Ministries	361
Special Mission Giving	0
Mission Giving	512
Administration Expense	100
Trustees	6,690
Pastor's Compensation	9,421
Lay Personnel Compensation	<u>7,168</u>
	24,252
Other Income/(Expense)	<u>1,940</u>
Operating Cash balance at 6/30/2015	<u>(14,407)</u>

Comments:

June contributions were lower than both the budget and 2014.

Pastor Compensation and Lay Personnel Compensation were both higher due to unbudgeted positions (Associate Pastor and Youth Coordinator), coupled with higher than budgeted maintenance overtime.

Apportionment (Mission Giving):

Through June we have paid \$14,383, which is lower than both 2014 and the budget.

Our negative operating cash balance continues to be a great concern. We are currently funding operations with cash from the designated accounts. This can not continue. We ask each of you for your help in pulling us out of the negative cash position.

As always, our thoughts and prayers are with each of you. God bless!

NOTES AND NOTICES

Dear St. Mark's United Methodist Women,

Thank you so much for the \$300 scholarship that I received from you. I really appreciate it and it will certainly be put to good use.

Sincerely,
Zachary Wilke

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the Whataburger gift card that you gave me for graduation. I really appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,
Zachary Wilke

PSSSST: We need YOU!! The Pumpkin Patch will be coming up soon! Please begin to consider the various ways that you can assist: volunteer to unload hay, pallets and pumpkins, help set up canopy, volunteer in the Patch, clean mini pumpkins for story time, stuff treat bags, serve as prayer warrior, help police the Patch for story time and read to students during story time.



St. Mark's United Methodist Church and Pastor Jay Brown,

iMil Gracias! Many, many thanks for all you have shared with our Peruvian Pastors this week. God's love and blessings have shown through your generous spirit in so many ways.

With grateful hearts we send a big hug un abrazo to you and this wonderful congregation.

Con Cariño,

Donald & Velma Pinedo with the Peruvian Pastors

Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who braved the heat and humidity to serve the needy. We served approximately 160-165 families in June. God was with us that day and every day.

Thanks again!

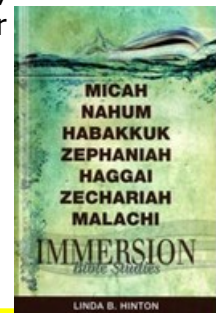
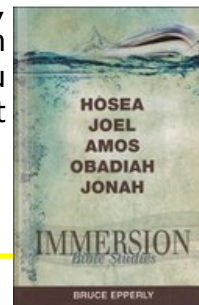
Patti Austin



Are you interested in participating in or hosting a small group study? If so, or to get more information, call Patti in the church office...

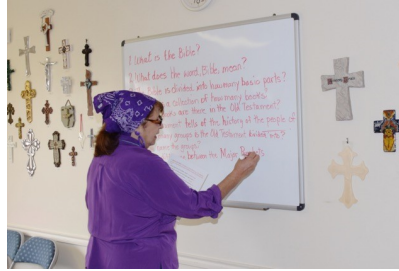
210-344-8393

The Wednesday Bible Study group will begin a new series on August 26th. There are two more studies left in the Old Testament! The first - Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah and Jonah - will run 8 weeks - from August 26th through October 14th. The second - Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi - will run October 21 through December 16th. Each study is totally independent - if you would be interested in either of these - or both, please just let Patti (in the church office) know! Books are \$10 each.





Vacation Bible School School Memories



**June 22-26,
2015**



Please remember our food pantry each week when you do your grocery shopping!

- 1st Sunday: A can of vegetables
- 2nd Sunday: 1 pound bag of rice or beans
- 3rd Sunday: A can of meat (chicken, tuna, spam)
- 4th Sunday: A can of Spaghetti Sauce
- 5th Sunday: Surprise us!!!



A "Noisy" offering will be taken on the last Sunday of every month - Save your coins!!!



ST. MARK'S BUZZIN'S . . .



Please remember these
in your prayers

Jill Anderson
Willie Barnes
Connor Benjamin
Kylee Brown
Megan Brown
Margaret Broxton
Bill & Isabel Centeno
Bucky Coley
Esdras Cuervo
Cora Fischer
Gladys Johnson
Bea Kunkel
Alice & Ben Logan
Robert Flores Lopez
Michael Mendoza
Charles Mixon

Ann Payette
Gloria Reedy
Steve Reyes Sr.
Mike Ross
Will Schuetze
Doris Sinclair
Kirk Tomerlin
Abraham Wamah
Jean Newman
Angie Erickson
Meadows Family
Joyce Codd
John Kosmich
Mary Sue Mahaffey
Tucker/Chapman
Families

Violet Hinton
Coy Mitchell
Ramiro Mendez
Family of Rev. Merle
Waters
Armstrong Family
Tucker Family
George Hampton
Dorothy Mace
Landry Dollahite
Jonell Chaney
Gus Rodriguez
Joanne Dallas
Elizabeth Cruz
John Kincaid

	August 7 Moses Lopez	August 16 Ramona Bissett Anthony Kosmich	August 25 Odette McKenzie
	August 9 Rob Remig	August 17 Stephanie Bercegeay Garrett Brown	August 27 Frankie Armstrong Diana Russo
	August 11 Allison Ramirez	August 18 Gloria Coe	August 29 Robert Allen
	August 3 Marville Asher Fatima Zurovec	August 12 Bill McMahon	
August 5 Cynthia Ramirez Abner Ross	August 15 Myrtis Burney	August 21 Lucille Armitage Amelia Swatzell	



*Our Sincere Sympathy is extended to
the family and friends of:*

*Frankie Armstrong
Fran & Harry Meadows
Barbara Tucker
Reverend Merle Waters*

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MISSION STATEMENT

- TO HELP ALL PERSONS DEVELOP AND STRENGTHEN A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD THROUGH HIS SON, JESUS CHRIST
- TO NURTURE THEM IN THE CHRISTIAN FAITH THROUGH OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP, WORKSHIP, AND STUDY
- TO STRIVE TO IDENTIFY AND SERVE THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS IN OUR COMMUNITY AND TO ENCOURAGE ALL TO LIVE IN THE WORLD AS CHRISTIAN DISCIPLES



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stmarkspastor@grandecom.net

OFFICE HOURS
 9:00 am—4:00 p.m. Monday—Thursday
 CLOSED on Friday

PASTOR	Rev. Jay Brown
SECRETARY	Patti Gardner
WESLEY NURSE	Charzes Flowers
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Carolyn Hahn
ORGANIST	Joseph Scutti
CUSTODIAN	Johnny Mendoza